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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/619,079	07/15/2003	Mitsuyoshi Nishimura	116605	6993

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EXAMINER

HOLTON, STEVEN E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/619,079	Applicant(s) NISHIMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner Steven E. Holton	Art Unit 2673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tang et al. (USPN: 5239373), hereinafter Tang.

Regarding claim 1, Tang teaches a material presentation device comprising “a first selecting device for selecting one image as a main image from plural images composed of an image output by another material presentation device, a camera image of a material on a material mounting pedestal (Fig. 17, element 98, col. 9, lines 9-15), which is photographed by a photographing section (Fig. 3, element 12b and 13b), an image stored in a memory device (Fig. 16, element 96, col. 9, lines 4-8); the Examiner also notes that memory is an inherent component of a CPU and images stored in the CPU memory could also be shown), and an external image output by an external device connected thereto (Fig. 16, element 96, col. 9, lines 4-8);

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a second selecting device capable of selecting no image or one image as an additional image from plural images composed of a camera image of a material on the material mounting pedestal, which is photographed by the photographing section, an image stored in the memory device and an external image output by the external device (Fig. 3, element 22a or 22b, col. 9, lines 16-19);

a point image generating device for generating a point image from point information which is subtracted from an image photographed by the photographing section (Fig. 8C, element 22 (the CPU) acts as the point generating device; col. 7, lines 15-41, Fig. 8C is discussed in lines 30-34);

an image synthesizing section for synthesizing the additional image selected by the second selecting device and the point image with the main image selected by the first selecting device (Fig. 3, element 22a or 22b, Fig. 18, col. 6, lines 9-28 and col. 9, lines 16-19);

a display image selecting device for selecting one image from an image output by another material presentation device and the image synthesized by the image synthesizing section (Fig. 3, element 22a or 22b, col. 5, line 47 - col. 4, line 28);

an image displaying section for displaying the image selected by the display image selecting device (Fig. 3, element 10a or 10b; col. 5, lines 47-55); and

an image outputting section for outputting the image synthesized by the image synthesizing section (col. 5, lines 55-68, also Fig. 13 and col. 8, lines 25-38)."

The Examiner notes that image selection and synthesizing is done by the CPU of a single terminal. Selecting what images to show on the display screen such as

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external or saved images, images from an external camera and inset images can be performed using a pushbutton system, a computer based program input system, or even an external video signal mixing board such as used in television production.

Regarding claim 2, the Examiner notes that much of this claim is similar to claim 1. Differences between the claims include: "a point image generating device for generating a point image as an additional image from point information output by another material presentation device and point information which is subtracted from an image photographed by the photographing section", "a first outputting section for outputting the main image which is selected from plural images composed of the camera image of a material on the material mounting pedestal, which is photographed by the photographing section, the image stored in the memory device, and the external image output by the external device connected thereto; a second outputting section for outputting point information which is subtracted from the image photographed by the photographing section; a first inputting section for inputting the main image which is output by the first outputting section of another material presentation device; and a second inputting section for inputting point information which is output by the second outputting section of another material presentation device". Regarding the point image generating device, Tang discusses a prior art system that provides basis for the device described in the '373 patent where the digitizer signals from both input systems are mixed at each workstation (col. 5, lines 25-40). Tang also considers sending all audio, video and other signals across a combined network (col. 8, lines 25-38) or as shown in the basic system of Fig. 3, only partial video and point data are transferred between

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different systems (col. 5, lines 47-68), such a transfer of data from the video signals and CPU would require multiple data connections from the system to the network so that all data was sent simultaneously, as well as multiple input points to read the information from the network from other users. Thus, multiple input and output sections for transmitting and receiving data would be inherent in the system disclosed by Tang.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Rabeisen (USPN: 431893), Fields (USPN: 4400724), Brown et al. (USPN: 4430526), Tang et al. (USPN: 5025314), and Conway (USPN: 5444476) all discuss similar video conferencing systems with transmission of video, audio and input data between locations.


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven E. Holton whose telephone number is (571) 272-7903. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (571) 272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Steven E. Holton
October 14, 2005
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VIJAY SHANKAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER